

Extraordinary GAZETTE,

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BRISTOL, October 2, 1793.

[No. 1.]

Extract of a Letter from General Don Diego Twig Pigeon, to His Satanic Majesty.

I HAVE the honor to inform your Majesty, that in consequence of having received certain Intelligence from his Excellency Don Infamous, Aid du Camp to his Royal Highness Prince Lucifer, that on Saturday Evening last, the Enemy had taken Possession of that Part of the Bridge, lately occupied by our Troops; and that they were burning and destroying the Works we had erected, for the Purpose of compelling all Passengers to pay a Toll for passing under a Pretence that the Bridge was not Paid for. It was judged most expedient to form a Junction with his Excellency Don Infamous,—and to March our whole Force immediately to Attack them; but previous to marching, we were re-inforced by a considerable Number of the Troops under the Command of my Lord Bobadil, and at Ten o'Clock, we marched in one Column to the Bridge, and entirely defeated the Enemy; but we found only one dead Body in the Field of Action, and am happy to say we sustained no Loss whatever.—The following Day being Sunday, we proceeded to the Bridge, and compelled the Passengers to pay the Toll. Some indeed who had been threatened by the Enemy to be murdered if they submitted to the Imposition, were foolish enough to endeavour to Pass in contempt of our Power; but we immediately secured them, and sent them to Prison.—The whole of this Evening was remarkable quiet and peaceable, we therefore retired at Six o'Clock unmolested, and we find since by a Deserter, that the Enemy were satisfied with the Passengers passing Free of Toll, and that they were enraged only on Account of Lord Bobadil's Troops joining us, and those Troops not being with us to Day, was the Reason of our not being annoyed.

On the following Day we assembled our Troops and enforced the Tolls; but perceiving that we could not bring the Enemy to a fair Engagement, we had recourse to Stratagem, and accordingly drew off the Whole of our Forces, and sent them to their respective Quarters (giving them strict Orders to turn out the Moment the Drum was beat) in order to deceive the Enemy.

About Half past Seven o'Clock in the Evening Mynheer Van Hall one of our Spies, arrived with the Intelligence, that the Enemy were again assembled on the Bridge, in great Force; I immediately ordered the Drum to beat to Arms, and by Eight o'Clock our Troops were ready to March, and we were again re-inforced by my Lord Bobadil and the Troops under his Command. I thought Proper to dispatch Lieutenant Maxwell with his Company to Reconnoitre and Observe the Motions of the Enemy. I followed with our whole Force as soon as possible, first ordering each Man a considerable Quantity of Spirituous Liquors.—The Right Wing I commanded myself, Don Infamous led on the Left.—When we came within Cannon Shot of the Enemy, we could perceive a great Light seemingly in the Centre of their Troops, I was fearful least it was a Globe of Compression they had sprung, in order to annoy Maxwell and his Troops, but as we approached nearer I found by means of some Straglers that it was a Fire for the purpose of burning the Works we had erected

in the Morning.—In the mean while Maxwell had passed their Advanced Guard, and bravely proceeded to Attack their main Body, but thro' superior Numbers was obliged to fall back, and am happy to add, he effected his Retreat in the most masterly Manner.—I judged it most Expedient to hasten the Attack, and immediately gave Orders to our Soldiers to spare neither Age nor Sex.—We arrived at the Bridge without much Opposition, and in a short Time made ourselves Master of One-half of it.—The Enemy received us with a Volley of Brick Bats and Oyster Shells (they not being provided with other Weapons) which we immediately answered by a heavy Fire of Musquetry; and rushing on with fixed Bayonets, put them to the Rout. I have also to inform your Majesty, that on our first Attack mistaking a Number of the Inhabitants who appeared in our Rear, (brought together by the sound of the Drum) for a Part of the Enemy, we ordered our Soldiers to face about and Fire; the Consequence was, many peaceable Inhabitants of the City of Bristol fell, amongst whom were some Women and Children.—About Twelve of the Enemy were found Dead on the Field, about Five and Thirty were taken to the Hospital wounded, some of whom are dying Daily, and we made about Eighteen Prisoners.—In short we gained a compleat Victory.

I cannot Conclude my Letter, without informing your Majesty of the brave Conduct of some of our Officers, on this Occasion.—Lieutenant Maxwell in particular I recommend to your Majesty's Notice, and hope he will be promoted, I am sorry to say he was wounded in the Cheek by a Fish Woman, who threw an Oyster-shell at him, but the Surgeon says his Wound is not Mortal, and he is recovering very fast. Monsieur Symons, Monsieur Worrall and Don Harris displayed several Acts of Courage, as did also Don Noble the younger, who commanded a Regiment of Bailiffs and Thief Takers.

I have the honor to be your Majesty's devoted
humble Servant and Subject,

Twig Pigeon.

P. S. I cannot at present transmit you a correct List of the Enemy Killed and Wounded, as it is supposed some of the Soldiers threw some dead Bodies into the River, which have not been found.

Since my writing the above, Two Regiments of Foot from Wells, and a Troop of the First Regiment of Dragoon Guards from Salisbury, have joined us.

I had almost forgot to inform your Majesty, that last Night as the whole of our Troops were under Arms, in the different Public Buildings, a Number of the Enemy suddenly appeared and did considerable Damage to the outside of the Buildings, but happily for us, they did not think proper to force the Doors, as they expected us to make a Sortie, which however we declined, having every Reason to believe they were Armed.

T. P.

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Exposition

RECEIVED

(continued)

to His Catholic Majesty
of a Letter from Don Diego Hurtado de Mendoza

